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GRAND PRIZE MINIMUM VALUE \$3000! DETAILS INSIDE!

# PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN



TM

...AND AFTER THIS  
IT'LL GET  
**DANGEROUS!**

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

WHO IS THE  
NEW PROWLER?

THE SPECTACULAR  
Illustration. Publisher  
mail at Controlled F  
Corporation. All right  
No similarity between  
and any such simile  
that it shall not be  
permitted to be



While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter gained the arachnid's powers... and in effect, became a human spider.

# Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!**

WESNER'S PUB IN MANHATTAN'S GREENWICH VILLAGE IS RENOWNED FOR ITS SUBSTANTIAL MENU, REASONABLE PRICES, AND GIANT TV-PROJECTION SYSTEM.

THOSE FIRST TWO ITEMS ARE WHAT ATTRACTED PETER PARKER. THE LAST ONE IS ABOUT TO GIVE HIM INDIGESTION!

CHANNEL-4 NEWSWATCH... WITH MELBA TOLIVER!

GOOD EVENING! A BIZARRE SERIES OF BREAK-INS THROUGHOUT THE CITY HAS LED TO A DEATH AT A FASHIONABLE SOHO APARTMENT COMPLEX.

AUTHORITIES SAY SPIDER-MAN MAY BE INVOLVED!

OH, NO!

# KILLER?

I'VE BEEN HERE ALL EVENING WITH DEBRA WHITMAN... I HAVEN'T BEEN NEAR SOHO FOR DAYS! WHO COULD POSSIBLY BE SETTING UP SPIDER-MAN THIS TIME?!

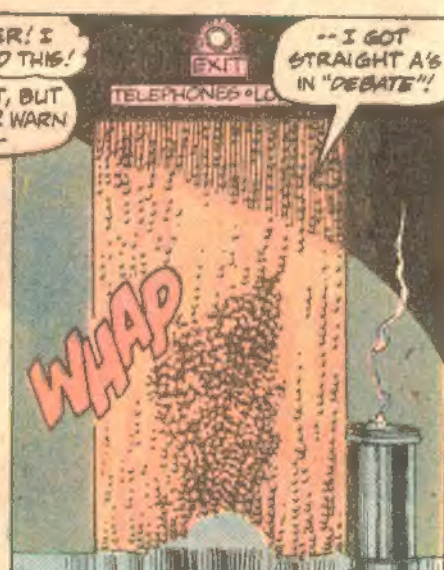
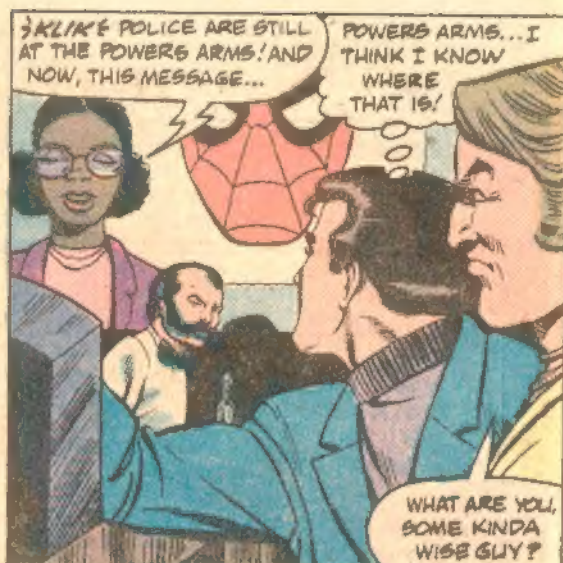
## A NIGHT ON THE PROWL!

ROGER STERN / MARIE BEVERIN / BRUCE D.  
WRITER / PENCILER / INKS & LETTERS

GLYNIS W. / DENNIS O'NEIL / JIM SHOOTER  
COLORIST / EDITOR / ED. IN CHIEF

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MEANWHILE, JUST A FEW SHORT BLOCKS AWAY, AT DEBRA'S APARTMENT...

Y-YOU'RE SURE YOU CAN'T COME IN FOR A MINUTE?

I'D LOVE TO, KID, BUT I REALLY HAVE TO SPLIT!

SEE YOU TOMORROW AT THE OFFICE!

SOON, ALONE IN HER ROOMS...

HE...HE ONLY TOOK ME OUT BECAUSE HE FELT SORRY FOR ME-- I JUST KNOW IT! WHY DID I THINK HE REALLY LIKED ME?

BUT, A ROOFTOP AWAY, THE REAL REASON FOR PETE'S DEPARTURE IS BECOMING APPARENT...

I REALLY HATED TO DITCH DEB... BUT I HAVE TO CHECK-OUT THAT NEWS STORY!

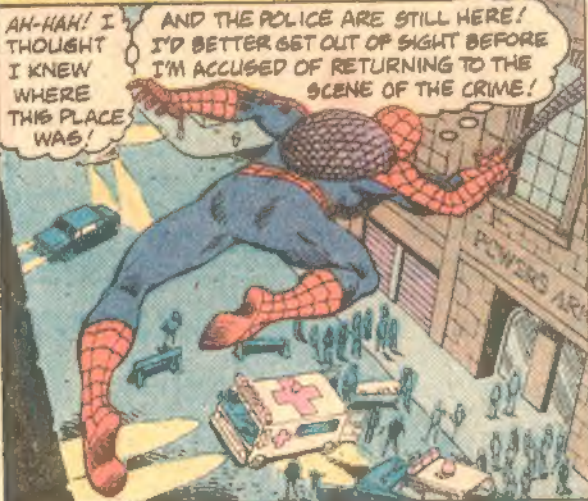
THE LAST THING I NEED IS A MURDER CHARGE HANGING OVER ME!



ONE QUICK SERIES OF SWINGS LATER...

AH-HAH! I THOUGHT I KNEW WHERE THIS PLACE WAS!

AND THE POLICE ARE STILL HERE! I'D BETTER GET OUT OF SIGHT BEFORE I'M ACCUSED OF RETURNING TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME!



SHORTLY, ON THE BUILDING'S ROOF...

NEW YORK'S FINEST WON'T BE TOO EAGER TO ANSWER SPIDER-MAN'S QUESTIONS RIGHT NOW-- BUT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO PICK UP A LITTLE INFORMATION AS A DAILY GLOBE EMPLOYEE...



...EVEN IF I DON'T HAVE MY CAMERA WITH ME!



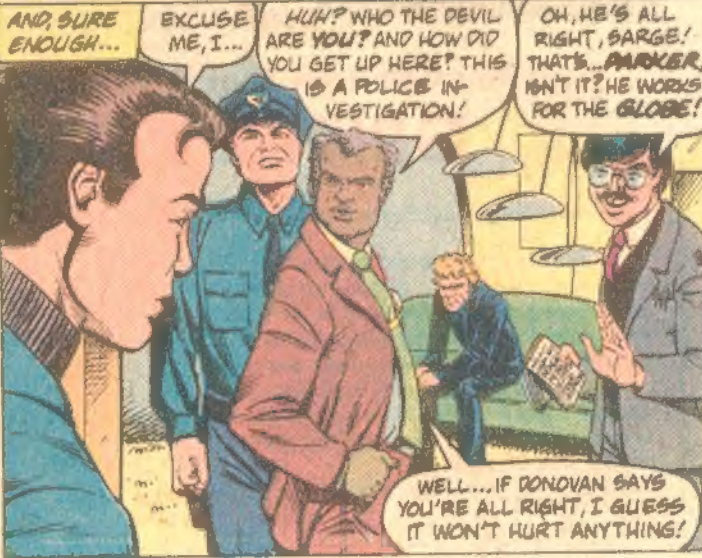
LET'S SEE... THE ACTION SEEMED TO BE COMING FROM THE SIXTH FLOOR!

AND, SURE ENOUGH...

EXCUSE ME, I...

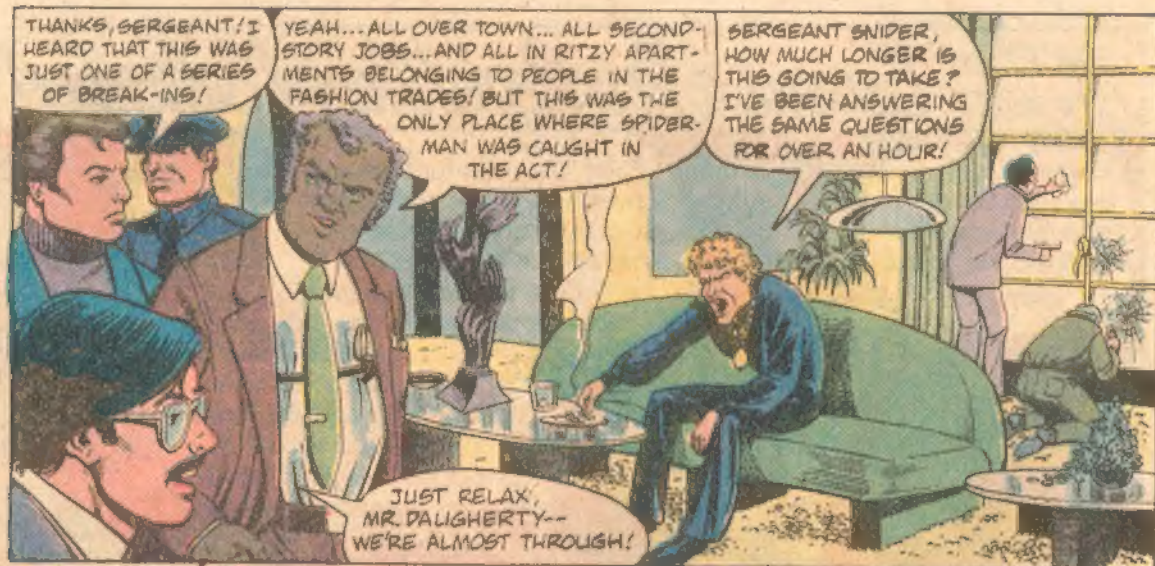
HUH? WHO THE DEVIL ARE YOU? AND HOW DID YOU GET UP HERE? THIS IS A POLICE INVESTIGATION!

OH, HE'S ALL RIGHT, SARGE! THAT'S... PARKER, ISN'T IT? HE WORKS FOR THE GLOBE!



WELL... IF DONOVAN SAYS YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, I GUESS IT WON'T HURT ANYTHING!





THANKS, SERGEANT! I HEARD THAT THIS WAS JUST ONE OF A SERIES OF BREAK-INS!

YEAH... ALL OVER TOWN... ALL SECOND-STORY JOBS... AND ALL IN RITZY APARTMENTS BELONGING TO PEOPLE IN THE FASHION TRADES! BUT THIS WAS THE ONLY PLACE WHERE SPIDER-MAN WAS CAUGHT IN THE ACT!

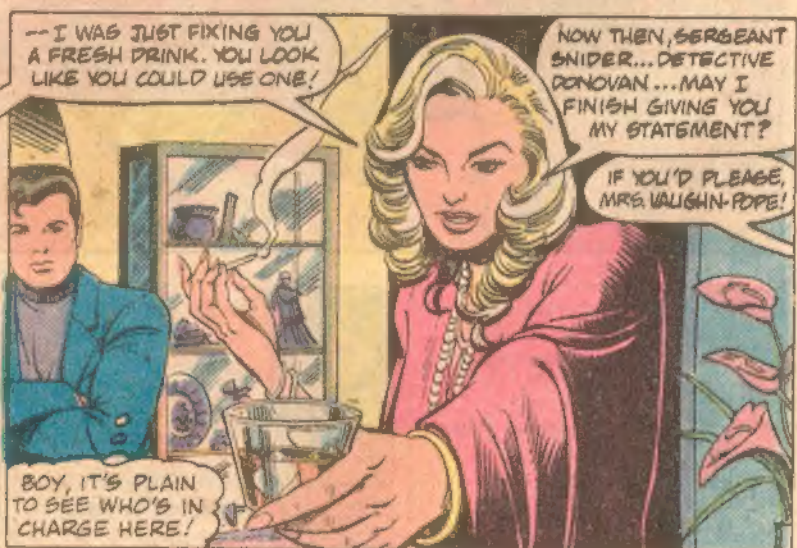
SERGEANT SNIDER, HOW MUCH LONGER IS THIS GOING TO TAKE? I'VE BEEN ANSWERING THE SAME QUESTIONS FOR OVER AN HOUR!

JUST RELAX, MR. DAUGHERTY-- WE'RE ALMOST THROUGH!



I SHOULD HOPE SO! LORD, I WAS NEARLY KILLED TONIGHT! DESIREE? WHERE ARE YOU?

KEEP YOUR SHIRT ON, STEVE--



--I WAS JUST FIXING YOU A FRESH DRINK. YOU LOOK LIKE YOU COULD USE ONE!

NOW THEN, SERGEANT SNIDER... DETECTIVE DONOVAN... MAY I FINISH GIVING YOU MY STATEMENT?

IF YOU'D PLEASE, MRS. VAUGHN-POPE!

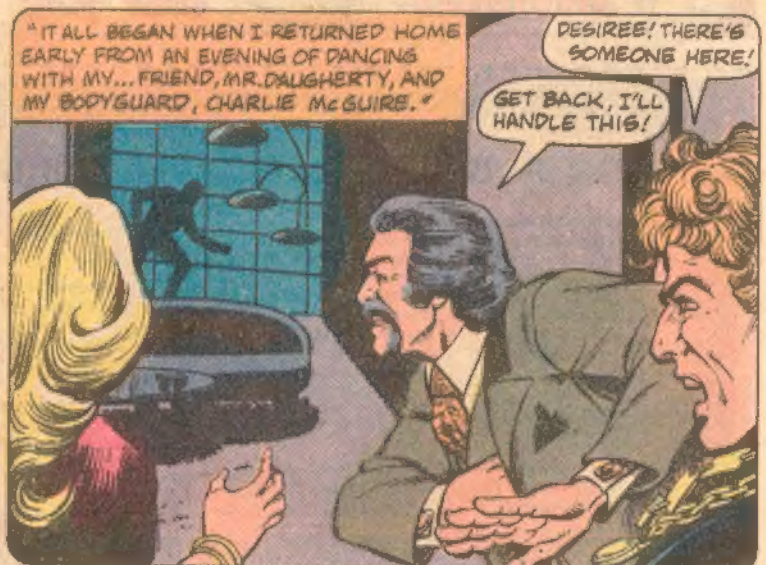
BOY, IT'S PLAIN TO SEE WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE!



ALL RIGHT, I'LL GO OVER THIS ONE MORE TIME. AND I'D APPRECIATE IT IF THE GENTELMAN FROM THE PRESS WOULD PAY CLOSE ATTENTION... I'D RATHER NOT BE BOTHERED AGAIN TONIGHT!

I SHOULD THINK NOT!

SHUT UP, STEVE!

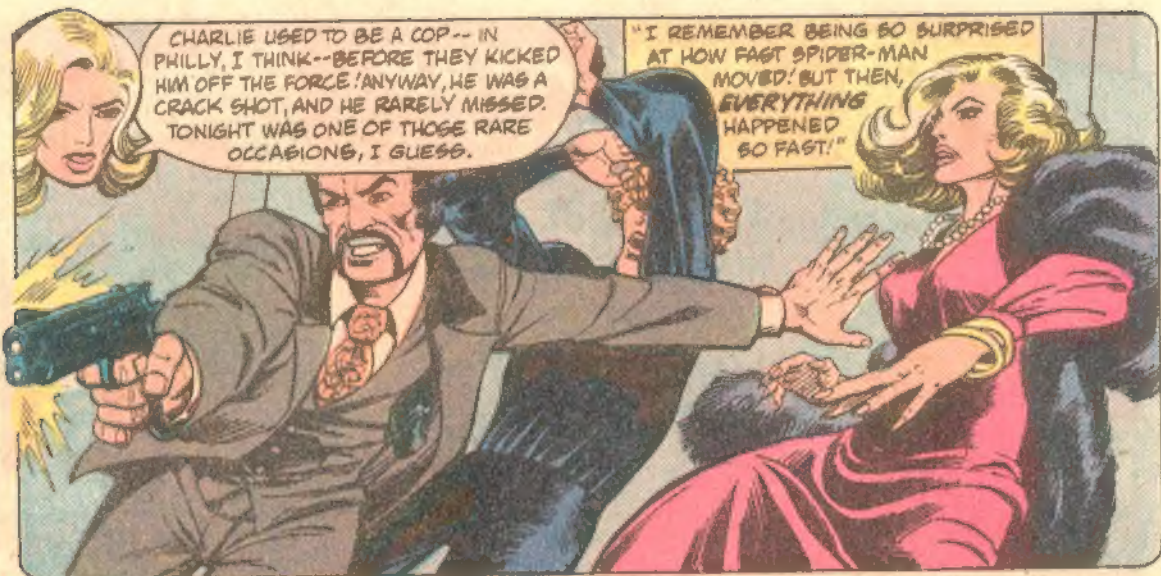


"IT ALL BEGAN WHEN I RETURNED HOME EARLY FROM AN EVENING OF DANCING WITH MY... FRIEND, MR. DAUGHERTY, AND MY BODYGUARD, CHARLIE MCGUIRE."

DESIREE! THERE'S SOMEONE HERE!

GET BACK, I'LL HANDLE THIS!





CHARLIE USED TO BE A COP-- IN PHILLY, I THINK--BEFORE THEY KICKED HIM OFF THE FORCE! ANYWAY, HE WAS A CRACK SHOT, AND HE RARELY MISSED. TONIGHT WAS ONE OF THOSE RARE OCCASIONS, I GUESS.

"I REMEMBER BEING SO SURPRISED AT HOW FAST SPIDER-MAN MOVED! BUT THEN, EVERYTHING HAPPENED SO FAST!"

CHARLIE FOLLOWED SPIDER-MAN OUT ONTO THE BALCONY AND... DIDN'T COME BACK. I RAN TO THIS WINDOW AND GOT HERE JUST IN TIME TO SEE CHARLIE FALL... AND SPIDER-MAN GET AWAY.

YOU'RE CERTAIN IT WAS SPIDER-MAN?

SERGEANT, WHO ELSE COULD HAVE ESCAPED BY CRAWLING UP THE SIDE OF A BUILDING?

I WOULDN'T GO PUTTING OUT AN ALL-POINTS BULLETIN FOR SPIDER-MAN JUST YET, SNIDER! PEOPLE HAVE IMPERSONATED HIM BEFORE, YOU KNOW!

AND GET A LOAD OF THIS! I DON'T THINK SPIDER-MAN LEAVES FINGER HOLES CHOPPED IN-TO THE WALLS!

'SCUSE ME, SARGE! BEFORE YOU LOOK AT THE WALL, CHECK THIS OUT! WE DUG THIS STEEL FLECHETTE OUT OF THE BALCONY--EVIDENTALLY, IT WAS FIRED AT THE BODYGUARD!

WHAT?!

THERE YOU GO, SNIDER! SINCE WHEN HAS SPIDER-MAN FIRED ANYTHING BESIDES WEBBING... AT ANYBODY?!

EE-YEAH! IT'S STARTING TO LOOK LIKE SOME-BODY WANTS US TO THINK SPIDER-MAN'S BEHIND THIS... BUT WHO?

I HAVE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA WHO!





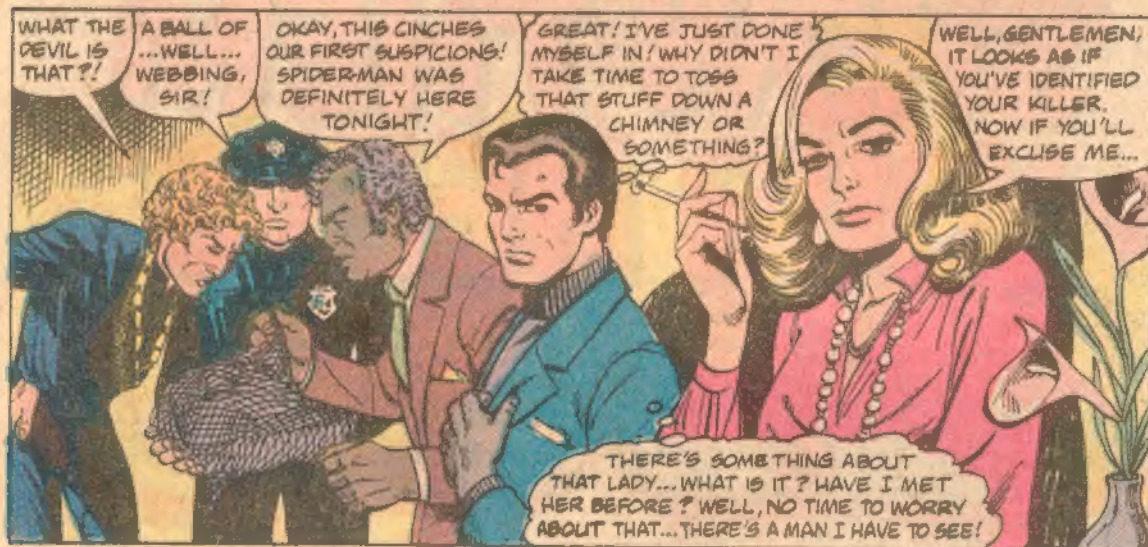
THIS STILL DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. WHOEVER WAS ROBBING THIS PLACE DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO TAKE ANYTHING...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE HE WAS GOING THROUGH THESE FASHION DESIGNS OF MRS. VAUGHN-POPE'S!

YEAH, AND THERE'S SIMILAR EVIDENCE AT THE OTHER BREAK-INS...ALMOST LIKE ROBBERY WAS AN AFTERTHOUGHT!

WELL, MAYBE WE OUGHTTA LOOK IN-TO THE FASHION ANGLE! SAY, WASN'T SPIDER-MAN INVOLVED A WEEK OR SO AGO WITH WHAT'S HIS NAME...THE FASHION GUY...KINGSLEY?

I'LL THANK YOU NOT TO MENTION VERMIN LIKE **RODERICK KINGSLEY** IN THIS HOUSE!

HEY, SARGE! LOOK WHAT WE JUST FOUND ON THE ROOF!



WHAT THE DEVIL IS THAT?!

A BALL OF...WELL...WEBBING, SIR!

OKAY, THIS CINCHES OUR FIRST SUSPICIONS! SPIDER-MAN WAS DEFINITELY HERE TONIGHT!

GREAT! I'VE JUST DONE MYSELF IN! WHY DIDN'T I TAKE TIME TO TOSS THAT STUFF DOWN A CHIMNEY OR SOMETHING?

WELL, GENTLEMEN, IT LOOKS AS IF YOU'VE IDENTIFIED YOUR KILLER. NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THAT LADY...WHAT IS IT? HAVE I MET HER BEFORE? WELL, NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THAT...THERE'S A MAN I HAVE TO SEE!



SOON, AFTER A QUICK TRIP HOME, PETER CHANGES ONCE AGAIN TO SPIDER-MAN--AND MAKES HIS WAY TO THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS...

THERE'S ONLY ONE GUY I KNOW WHO DIGGS INTO WALLS WHEN HE CLIMBS AND FIRES METAL PARTS...HOBIE BROWN, THE **PROWLER**!

WE DIDN'T EXACTLY PART COMPANY ON THE BEST OF TERMS...

\*AMAZING SPIDER-MAN#93-D



--AND HE MIGHT BE TRYING TO GET BACK AT ME. STILL, I CAN'T IMAGINE HOBIE KILLING SOMEBODY!

WELL, THERE'S ONE SURE WAY TO GET SOME ANSWERS. I JUST HOPE--



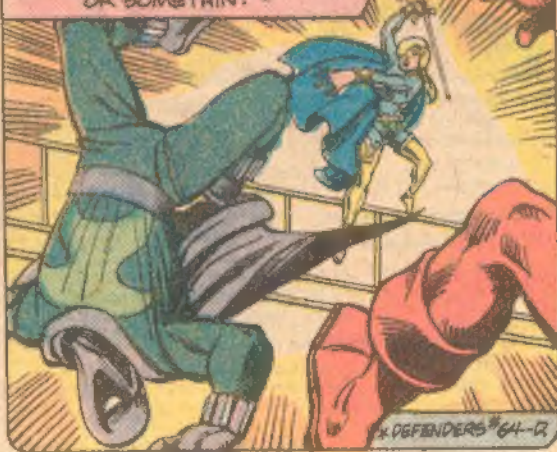


"YOU MUSTA SEEN THAT SPECIAL THEY RAN ON THE LOCAL TV STATIONS... THE ONE ABOUT THE DEFENDERS!"

"WELL, I THOUGHT THAT JOININ' THEM WOULD ESTABLISH ME AS A REAL SUPERGUY. ONLY PROBLEM WAS, A LOT OF OTHER FOLKS SHOWED UP, TOO."



"I MEAN, I'M STILL TRYIN' TO LIVE IT DOWN! AN' MY PART IN THE MESS ENDED PRETTY FAST -- I WAS TOSSED INTO THE HARBOR BY THE VALKYRIE! SHE WAS GOING CRAZY OR SOMETHIN'!"





"ANYWAY, ONCE I'D PULLED MYSELF UP ON DRY LAND, I DECIDED RIGHT THEN AND THERE TO HANG IT UP!"

"I WRAPPED UP MY PROWLER BEAR AN' STUFFED IT IN THE STORAGE ROOM... AN' I HAVEN'T BEEN NEAR IT SINCE!"



LIKE I SAID, HOBIE-- I'D LIKE TO BELIEVE THAT!



LOOK, MAN, LEMME GRAB A ROBE AND I'LL TAKE YOU DOWN TO THE BASEMENT AND SHOW YOU! MY GEAR MUST BE ALL RUSTED UP BY NOW!

BUT SHORTLY...

WHAT THE--? THE LOCK'S BEEN JIMMIED... MY STUFF'S ALL GONE!

THIS COULD BE AN ACT, BUT I DON'T THINK SO! HOBIE IS TOO GENUINELY SURPRISED!



EVERYTHING-- THEY TOOK EVERYTHING! MY TOOLS, MY SCHEMATICS, THE WHOLE SCHEME! AND THAT MEANS WHOEVER TOOK IT IS USIN' IT!

WE GOTTA STOP HIM!

NO, NOT WE... ME! YOU WANTED TO GIVE THIS UP, REMEMBER?

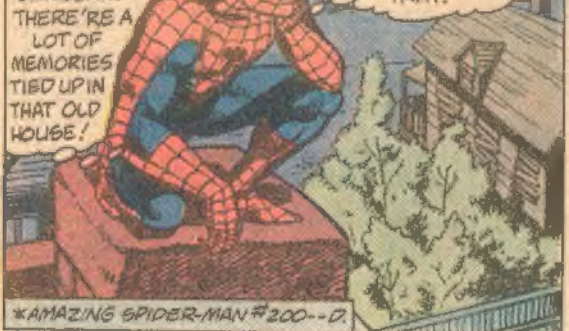


I'LL FIND THIS NEW PROWLER. AFTER ALL, I HAVE MORE AT STAKE!

LEAVING THE GRUMBLING HOBIE BROWN BEHIND, SPIDER-MAN SWINGS OFF ACROSS QUEENS... EVENTUALLY COMING TO THE SECTION KNOWN AS FOREST HILLS!

GEE... THE OLD HOMESTEAD! I HAVEN'T BEEN BACK HERE SINCE THAT MESS WITH THE BURGLAR! THERE'RE A LOT OF MEMORIES TIED UP IN THAT OLD HOUSE!

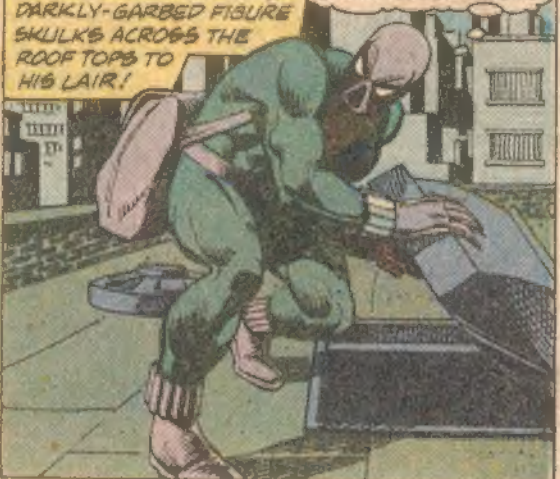
DARN! I JUST REALIZED... IT'S BEEN WEEKS SINCE I VISITED AUNT MAY! I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT!



\*AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #300--D

AND, EVEN AS SPIDER-MAN CONTEMPLATES HIS FAMILY DUTIES, IN MANHATTAN, A DARKLY-GARBED FIGURE SKULKS ACROSS THE ROOFTOPS TO HIS LAIR!

NO ONE'S AROUND. I'D BETTER GET UNDERCOVER FAST!





WHAT A NIGHT-- ONE BAD  
BREAK AFTER ANOTHER!

FIRST, THAT BODY-  
GUARD HAD TO PLAY  
HERO... AND NOW, I  
CAN'T FIND A  
FENCE IN TOWN  
WHO'LL HANDLE  
MY LOOT!



I WONDER  
WHAT THE COPS  
ARE DOIN' ABOUT  
THIS MESS? I  
BETTER CHECK  
THE POLICE  
BAND!

SURE! ALL UNITS BE  
ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SPIDER-  
MAN... WANTED IN CONNECTION  
WITH THE POWERS ARMS  
KILLING!

WHAT?! THEY'RE  
BLAMIN'  
SPIDER-MAN?



THAT'S BAD...  
BAD! IF I KNOW HIM,  
HE'LL BE LOOKIN'  
FOR ME! I GOTTA  
GET OUT OF TOWN!



YOU'RE NOT  
GOING  
ANYWHERE! WHO?

WHO DID YOU  
EXPECT,  
PROWLER?  
I DO PAY  
THE RENT  
ON THIS  
PLACE  
AFTER  
ALL!

I HELPED SET  
YOU BACK UP IN  
BUSINESS, RED!  
I OWN YOU...  
RIGHT DOWN TO  
YOUR SOCKS!

LOOK, BELLADONNA, I AGREED  
TO PULL THE JOBS YOU WANTED--  
THE WAY YOU WANTED-- BUT YOU  
NEVER MENTIONED THAT SPIDER-  
MAN MIGHT GET INVOLVED!

AND HE'S ONE GUY  
I DON'T WANNA MESS  
WITH AGAIN!

I MUST ADMIT THAT THE SPIDER-MAN  
ANGLE WAS UNEXPECTED... BUT I THINK  
WE CAN USE IT TO GOOD ADVANTAGE!

NO, DON'T TRY ANYTHING, MY  
FRIEND! I SEE THOSE MUSCLES  
TENSING... JUST RELAX!

NOW, SUPPOSE YOU  
TELL ME EXACTLY WHAT  
HAPPENED TONIGHT!



I DID JUST WHAT YOU SAID...  
KNOCKED OVER A BUNCH  
OF FASHION DESIGNERS'  
HOMES, THEN WENT TO  
THE VALIGN- POPE  
DAME'S PLACE AND WAITED  
FOR HER TO COME HOME!

BUT YOU  
NEVER MENTIONED  
THAT SHE HAD  
A TRIGGER-HAPPY  
BODYGUARD!



'ANYWAY, I SPLIT OUT ONTO  
THE BALCONY WHEN THE  
LEAD STARTED TO FLY. I  
WOULDA GOTTEN AWAY,  
TOO...







...BUT THE IDIOT FOLLOWED ME! HE HAD THE DROP ON ME GOOD!

HOLD IT, PALLY! ONE MOVE, AND YOU'RE A DEAD MAN!



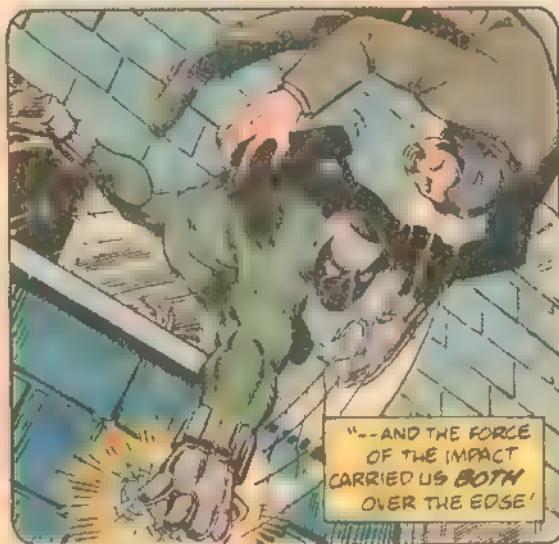
I WASN'T ABOUT TO LET MYSELF BE TAKEN! HE WAS FAST SURE-- BUT I WAS FASTER! AND HE DIDN'T KNOW MY WRIST-BANDS FIRED HIGH VELOCITY FLECHETTES!



I SHOT THE HEATER RIGHT OUTTA HIS HAND I FIGURED THAT WOULD END IT RIGHT THERE--



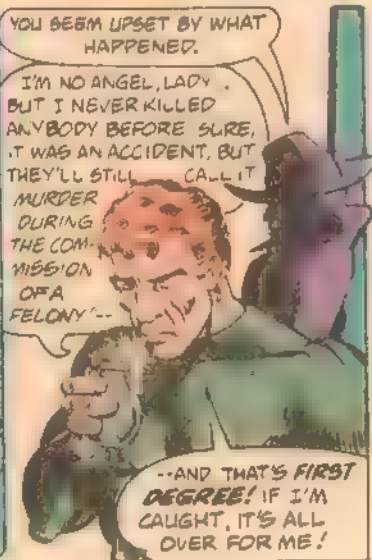
--BUT THEN THE FOOL JUMPED ME! I WAS ALMOST OFF THE BALCONY WHEN HE CONNECTED--



--AND THE FORCE OF THE IMPACT CARRIED US BOTH OVER THE EDGE!



THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO TO SAVE 'IM. I DUG IN WITH MY CLAWS AS HE TOOK THE BIG FALL. IT... WASN'T PRETTY, LEMME TELL YA!"

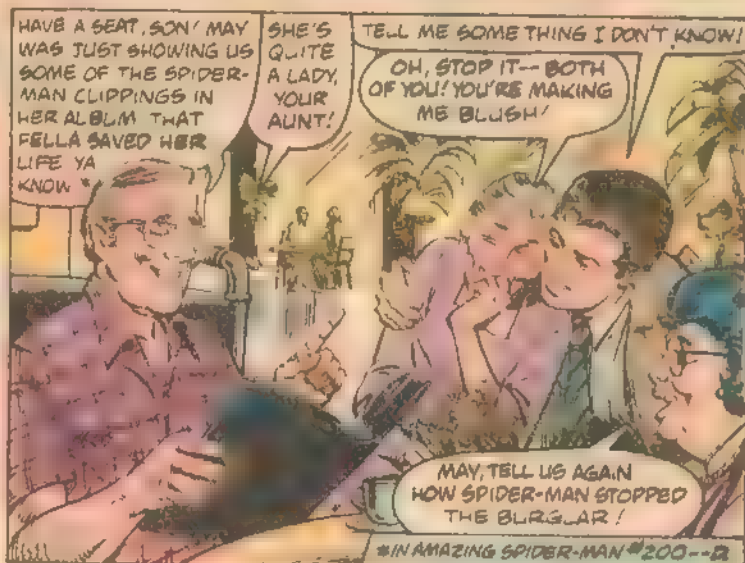
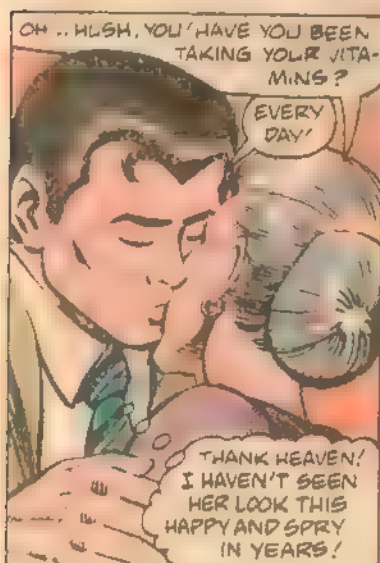
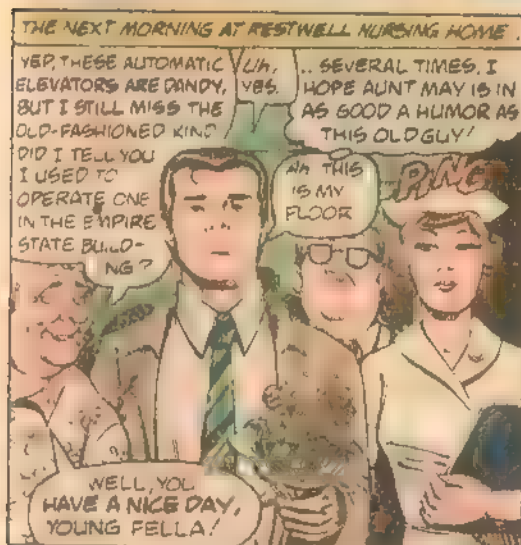
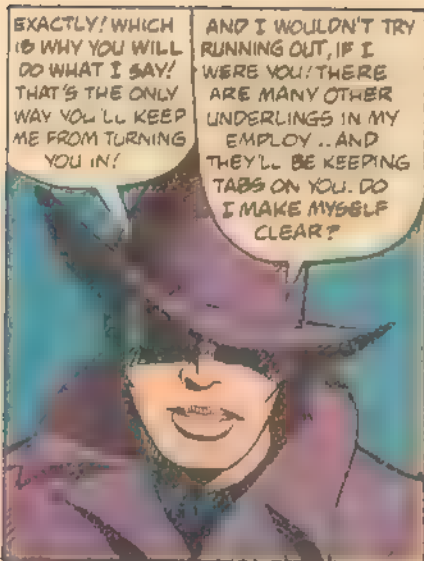


YOU SEEM UPSET BY WHAT HAPPENED.

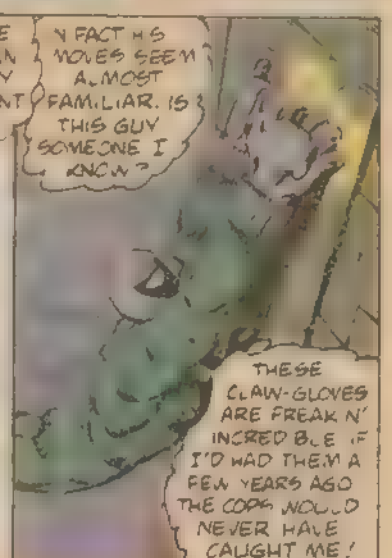
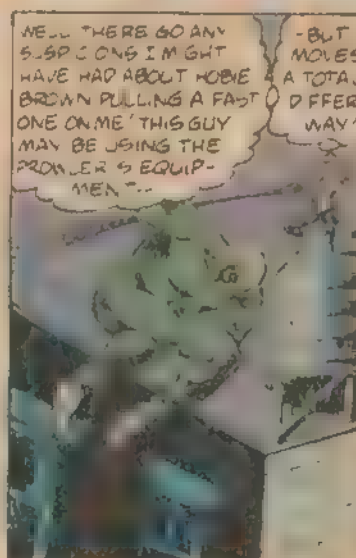
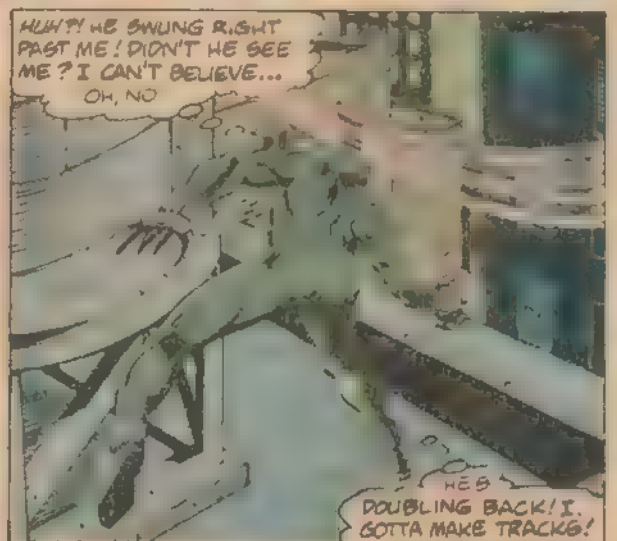
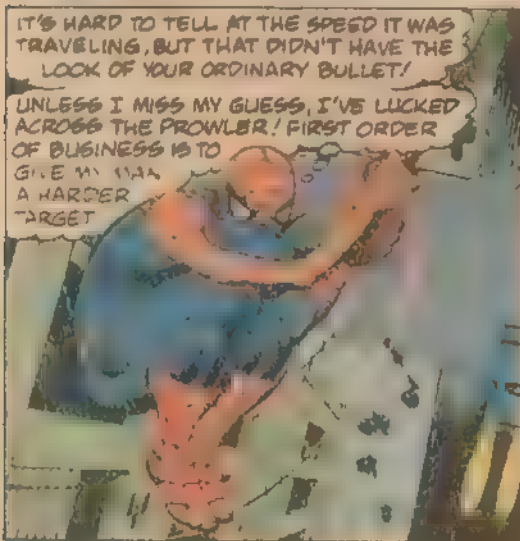
I'M NO ANGEL, LADY. BUT I NEVER KILLED ANYBODY BEFORE SURE, IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, BUT THEY'LL STILL CALL IT MURDER DURING THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY!--

--AND THAT'S FIRST DEGREE! IF I'M CAUGHT, IT'S ALL OVER FOR ME!











# SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

DENNIS O'NEIL  
EDITOR  
MARK GRUENWALD  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Since SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #39 and 40 were written to complement each other, I've decided to run your letters regarding those two issues back to back. So, without further ado:

Dear Bill, John and Jim,

PPTSS #39 was a good comic. I truly enjoyed Spidey's battle with Chip Martin, the Schizoid Man. Because of the fact that the emotions of others tended to overexcite him, I thought at first that Chip might turn out to be possessed by the Emphathoid. I see I was wrong again.

The conclusion could have been built towards a bit better. In Spidey's other mags, as well as this one, you should have slowly had our hero getting crabbiier, rather than springing it on us all in one lsh.

Who's going to beat the Spider-Lizard? The White Tiger? The Fantastic Four? The Frightful Four? (You can fool me — even if the pictures on pages 5 and 6 weren't enough, the phrase "fearsome foursome" gives away the fact that Electro has joined the Frightful Four!) Well, whoever opposes our altered arachnid, the fight should be a winner.

MAKE MINE MARVEL!!!

Rich Davis  
Columbus, OH 43220

Dear Bill,

PETER PARKER #39 was great! I was totally unprepared for the ending (I had suspected a much less Lizard-like transformation), which means that the surprise was a success. I'm glad to see that Electro's back — that is him with the Sandman, et al, isn't it? One quibble: When Peter enters the Empire State University campus, the letters "ESU" over the gateway are not reversed as they should be. As it was drawn, only those people inside the campus grounds would be able to read the lettering. Those on the outside would see it reversed.

John Bishop  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

You're absolutely right about the "ESU" legend over the campus gateway, John — it should have been reversed. I guess the letterer was as awed as I was by John Romita, Jr.'s pulse-pounding pencils because we both overlooked the boner. But, if you hold a mirror up to the panel in question, we promise the letters will appear correctly reversed. Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Reader Participation???

Dear Bill and John,

Having read Marvel Comics for over ten years, I finally found myself so totally overwhelmed by PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #39 that I had to write to you. This was an absolutely superb issue, with a magnificent finale. I can hardly wait for issue #40. There are so many possibilities in your "Spider-Lizard" story that I find myself becoming more and more excited as I ponder all the possible permutations.

It will also be interesting to see how the team of Electro, the Sandman, the Trapster and the Wizard can foul up our hero's life.

Do me one favor, though: Please stop curing all of Spidey's foes! In the last five issues we have seen cured Dr. Curt Connors (aka, the Lizard), Mindworm and Morbius. Soon, if this keeps up, Spidey's going to run out of enemies to fight!

Steve Szpak  
Hamilton Ontario  
CANADA L8A-3V5

It's funny how all those cures worked out over such a short period, Steve — funny and unintended. Y'see, the Spider-Lizard story was originally planned to have extended over several more issues, and to have ended with Curt Connors once more becoming the Lizard, with his lethal split-personality under control this time, to battle the rampaging Spider-Lizard. Then, when I learned I was being transferred onto the INCREDIBLE HULK mag, Jim Shooter and I decided that too many transformations in a now-truncated epic would become confusing, so we left Curt Connors as he was. Unfortunately, this also coincided with the Morbius cure, already plotted — and with the Mindworm cure as written in a fill-in tale by Tony Isabella about which I knew

nothing. So, that's how it sometimes happens at Mighty Marvel, Steve. Glad you asked.

Dear Bill

Let me briefly, but enthusiastically say that I thoroughly enjoyed PPTSS #40! Next to AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #200 I've not read such an exciting issue in many months. My thanks and praise go to you, Bill, for such a story.

Frank Springer? The self-same Frank Springer who draws REX MORGAN, MD, for the newspapers? If so let me say that I've enjoyed your work there and really was pleased with your handling of PPTSS #40. Your layouts did true justice to Bill's plot.

Since I did like PPTSS #40 so much, I hate to bring up the subject of no-prizes, but... well, on page 6, panel 4, there stands Dr. Curt Connors with two arms! Is it his unpinned right sleeve? No, I doubt if the good doctor would take time to unpin it while staring in horror at the ton of wood and water crashing down towards his head. Besides, later there is a hand distinctively sticking out of the sleeve. FACT: Dr. Connors has one arm, his left. It is his right arm that is missing. Yet again, on page 27, panel 5, Curt and Spidey are being washed out of the sewer pipe and there swims Dr. Connors, right arm outstretched.

Alas, it only goes to show that even great Marvel artists are only human. But be reassured that Marvel is still unsurpassed anywhere on Earth!

Adrian Gomez  
Ft. Washington, MD 20022

It was only your last two lines that brought Fearless Frank back from the edge of the precipice, Adrian! As for the glaring error of depicting Curt Connors with two arms, all I can say by way of apology for all concerned is that Frank andinker Ricardo Villamonte, in volunteering to take on an art job that was due the day before they received the assignment, made some errors that anyone unfamiliar with our supporting characters might have made.

As for no-prizes, they're usually awarded, not for spotting errors in production, but for service above and beyond the call of Marveldom. Okay?

Dear Bill and Frank,

Re: PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #40

What a loser!!!

Ever since the premiere issue this mag has never lived up to the quality of its companion mag, the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. I dare you to explain the following:

(1) In AMAZING, J. Jonah Jameson is shown having had a nervous breakdown, but not here. (2) When swimming through a dark, germ-infested sewer, how can Peter and Curt Connors see let alone contract a serious eye infection. (3) Curt Connors is first drawn with two arms, and then with a right arm — which is supposed to be missing — instead of with just a left arm. (4) Peter is positioned wrongly for the application of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. One hand should be pinching shut the nostrils while the other should be underneath the victim's neck, keeping the head tilted back, thus preventing the tongue from blocking the windpipe. Done the way Frank drew it, the proposed rescue would have killed the victim rather than saved him. (5) I thought Electro died in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #187.

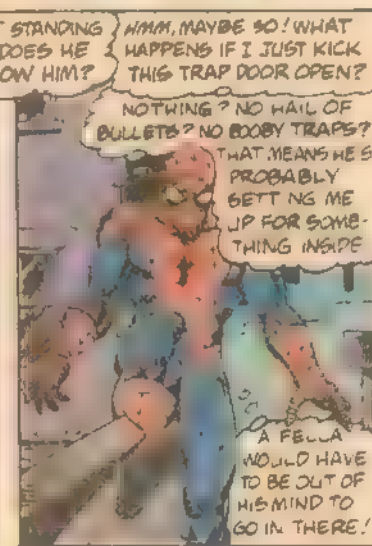
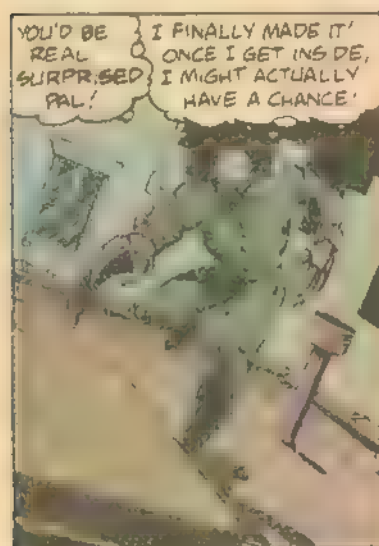
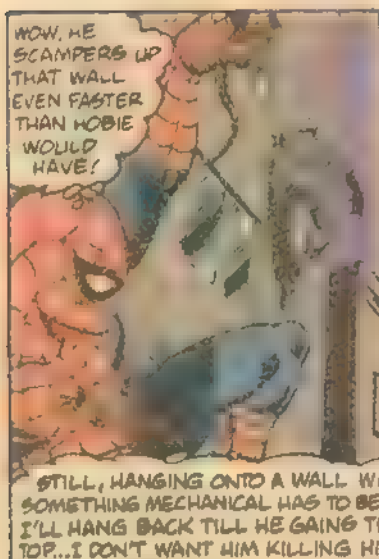
Sorry, but this story was definitely not Marvel material.

Peter Leonardo  
Brooklyn, NY 11224

As you can see by Adrian Gomez's letter, Pete, opinions differ. But, as to your protestations: (1) Different time-tables explain JJJ's normalcy in PPTSS and nervous collapse in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN... and we hope that having all Spider books under Denny O'Neil's aegis will keep continuities tighter. (2) They weren't in the sewage system all that long, and some light does filter down through street level manholes. (3) That mistake is discussed above. (4) A comic book is meant to be entertaining, not a first aid instruction manual. As drawn, the scene suggests clearly the act of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. (5) Electro was shown alive and in traction in MARVEL TWO IN-ONE #57. As for how he escaped Project Pegasus, that's an oversight on our part we hope to address in the near future.

—Bill Mantlo







00089 825-5567  
Dunbar

SAY, THAT'S RIGHT! WE ARE IN THE GARMENT DISTRICT, AREN'T WE?

THIS IS MIGHTY THOUGHTFUL OF YOU, PROWLER! MY TAILOR WAS TELLING ME I SHOULD HAVE SOME NEW SUITS MADE UP...

...AND HERE YOU OFFER ME A COUPLE TONS OF MATERIAL! THAT'S NICE... BUT DO YOU HAVE ANYTHINGS IN POLYESTER?

LORD, CAN'T ANYTHING STOP THAT GUY? IF I DON'T KEEP AHEAD OF HIM IN HERE, I'M SUNK!

YEEAH!

WHAT'S YOUR HURRY? THE NIGHT IS STILL YOUNG!

SHUCKS, YOU'RE NO FUN AT ALL! YOUR PREDECESSOR HAD A LOT MORE SPUNK-- NOT TO MENTION A SNAPPY CAPE!

I REALIZE IT'S NOT MIDNIGHT YET, BUT WHAT DO YOU SAY WE UNMASK? YOU FIRST!

OH, NO, YOU DON'T! I'M READY FOR YOUR GAS TRICK!

OR AM I? THIS ISN'T THE PROWLER'S USUAL GAS!

IT'S SEEPING INTO MY MASK... BURNING MY EYES! AND IT SMELLS SWEET, LIKE... BELLADONNA!

IF THAT GAS DON'T STOP YA, THIS SHOULD!

A SEWING MACHINE? YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?

WHY DON'T YOU JUST TOSS THE KITCHEN SINK AT ME?

NOW WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

OUT! YOU WANT ME... COME AND GET ME!



GEEZ, WHY DOES EVERYBODY ALWAYS HAVE TO PLAY HARD TO GET?

Uh-oh, my spider-sense is really getting a strong response now... there must be danger all around!

AND THEN...  
THE DOOR!  
NO...WAIT!

**SLAMM**

EH?

NO, LET ME GO!!

NOT BEFORE YOU ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS, CHUCKLES!

FOR INSTANCE, DO YOU KNOW A LADY WHO GOES IN FOR 1940s FASHIONS?

IF YOU'RE REFERRING TO ME, SPIDER-MAN-- THE ANSWER IS YES!

*\* ISSUE #43 -- D*

WELL, BELLADONNA! I'D WONDERED WHERE YOU'D BEEN HIDING YOURSELF SINCE OUR LAST LITTLE MEETING!\*

THIS IS ALMOST STARTING TO MAKE SENSE NOW... AT LEAST AS FAR AS THE FASHION ANGLE GOES! PROWLER JUNIOR HERE HAS BEEN WORKING FOR YOU, RIGHT?

LET GO OF ME, BLAST YA!

YOU'RE QUITE CLEVER, SPIDER-MAN. I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO INTERFERE WITH MY PLANS!

YEAH, I'M SUCH A BUSYBODY-- JUST CAN'T KEEP MY NOSE OUT OF TROUBLE!

HEH, WATCH THE CLAWS!

LEGO! I GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE!

I'M SORRY, PROWLER-- BUT IF I LET YOU OUT OF MY TRAP, THEN SPIDER-MAN MIGHT GET OUT! BESIDES, YOU'VE ALREADY OUTLIVED YOUR USEFULNESS TO ME!

THREE INCHES OF ARMOR PLATING SHOULD KEEP YOU IN YOUR PLACE!

**CLUNG**

NO! NO!!



DESPERATELY, THE PROWLER CLAWS AT THE THICK METAL DOOR, BUT...



GO AHEAD AN' HIT ME IF YOU WANT. IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW... WE'RE GONNA DIE!





# THE HUMAN TORCH SAVES THE VALLEY!

